

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MANILA 05444 091013Z

15  
ACTION EA-13

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-07 NSCE-00 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 L-02 H-01 AID-10 ACDA-10

MC-02 EB-03 SP-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /080 W

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P 090923Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3332

INFO CINCPAC PRIORITY

S E C R E T MANILA 5444

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, RP

SUBJECT: MILITARY BASE RIGHTS NEGOTIATIONS

1. ON MORNING MAY 9, I HAD LENGTHY DISCUSSION WITH MARCOS CONCERNING MILITARY BASE RIGHTS NEGOTIATIONS. FINANCE SECRETARY VIRATA WAS ALSO PRESENT.

2. I BEGAN BY TELLING MARCOS THAT PAPER WHICH HAD BEEN "SLIPPED UNDER MY DOOR" PRIOR TO MY DEPARTURE CONTAINED PROPOSALS WHICH, IN MY JUDGMENT, WOULD HAVE HAD COUNTERPRODUCTIVE EFFECT UPON OUR NEGOTIATIONS. I HAD THEREFORE REFRAINED FROM PRESENTING IT OFFICIALLY IN WASHINGTON.

3. MARCOS TREATED THIS MATTER RATHER LIGHTLY AND SAID HE WOULD INSTRUCT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE ENRILE TO "COMB OUT" THE PAPER WITH A CABINET LEVEL PANEL. AT THIS POINT, HE INFORMED ME THAT HE HAD CREATED SUCH A PANEL, TO BE CHAIRED BY FORMER VICE PRESIDENT PALAEZ, TO STUDY THESE MATTERS. VIRATA THEN RAISED THE QUESTION OF RENTAL FOR THE BASES, AND I SAID I EXPECTED THIS TO BE ONE OF THE SUBJECTS WHICH WOULD BE "COMBED OUT."

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 MANILA 05444 091013Z

4. THERE FOLLOWED SOME DISCUSSION OF ACTIONS RECENTLY TAKEN BY THE U.S. SENATE WITH RESPECT TO BASE-RIGHTS AGREEMENTS. I SAID THIS MATTER WAS CURRENTLY UNDER INTERDEPARTMENTAL STUDY IN WASHINGTON AND IT WAS CONCEIVABLE THAT BASE RIGHTS RENEGOTIATIONS WITH PHILIPPINES MIGHT HAVE TO BE PRESENTED IN TREATY FORM. MARCOS SEEMED UNPERTURBED BY THIS PROSPECT.

5. I EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT MBA PANEL HAD NOT RPT NOT MET DURING MY ABSENCE, DESPITE OUR AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE THAT IT SHOULD BEGIN TO DISCUSS THOSE TECHNICAL MATTERS WHICH WERE UNRESOLVED. MARCOS INSTRUCTED VIRATA TO HAVE PHILIPPINE MEMBERS FIX DATE WITH U.S. COUNTERPARTS. WE WILL REPORT ON THIS IN SEPARATE CABLE AND AGAIN URGE REPLY TO OUR MESSAGES ON THIS SUBJECT.

6. IN DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING HARDWARE, I INFORMED MARCOS THAT TEAM WAS COMING TO MANILA TO MEET WITH JUSMAG TO DISCUSS REPLACEMENT AIRCRAFT FOR F-86 AND CLOSE SUPPORT AIRCRAFT. I TOLD HIM THAT WE WOULD BE WILLING EXPLORE FMS ROUTE FOR RADAR EQUIPMENT HE DESIRES AND THAT MISSION STAFF WOULD PURSUE M-16 CREDIT AGREEMENT FURTHER WITH VIRATA, WHO HAD CERTAIN QUESTIONS ON TERMS PROPOSED.

7. COMMENT: IN GENERAL, MARCOS SEEMS PREPARED TO PROCEED WITH MBA NEGOTIATIONS IN BUSINESSLIKE WAY. IT IS NOT CERTAIN HOW SERIOUSLY WE SHOULD TAKE VIRATA'S QUERY CONCERNING RENTAL FOR THE BASES, SINCE MARCOS HAD PREVIOUSLY, IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION, INDICATED HIS WILLINGNESS TO DROP THIS POINT. HOWEVER, CREATION OF PANEL HEADED BY PALAEZ MAY RATHER DIFFUSE HIS DIRECT HANDLING OF THIS MATTER IN FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS.  
SULLIVAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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